

Amended Claims

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1. An access control device comprising means for receiving an input password, means for combining the input password with a pre-selected code thereby to produce a combined password, and means for decrypting encrypted code using the combined password.

Rule
1.126

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2. An access control device according to claim 1, in which the apparatus further comprises means for encrypting the combined password and the encrypted combined password is used for decryption.

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3. A method of controlling access, which method comprises the steps of receiving an input password, combining the input password with a predetermined code to produce a combined password, and decrypting encrypted code using the combined password.

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4. A method of controlling access according to claim 3, in which the combined password is encrypted and the encrypted combined password is used for decrypting encrypted code.

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5. A method of controlling access according to claim 3, in which the encrypted combined password is a key for decryption of the encrypted code.

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6. A method of controlling access according to claim 3, in which the password is an alphanumeric string.

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7. A method of controlling access according to claim ¹⁹6, in which the code is an alphanumeric string.

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8. A method of controlling access according to claim ¹⁴7, in which the pre-stored access password comprises a pre-selected password combined with the predetermined code, which combination is encrypted.

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9. A method of controlling access according to claim ²¹8, in which the combined pre-selected password is encrypted according to the encryption algorithm used for the combined password.

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10. A method of controlling access according to claim ²²9, in which the encryption is substantially irreversible (asymmetric).

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11. A method of controlling access according to claim ²³10, in which the encryption algorithm will be a public key algorithm.

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12. A method of controlling access according to claim ¹⁶8, in which the pre-stored access password comprises a pre-selected password combined with the predetermined code, which combination is encrypted.

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13. A method of controlling access according to claim ²⁵12, in which the combined pre-selected password is encrypted according to the encryption algorithm used for the combined password.

²⁷
~~14~~. A method of controlling access according to claim ~~13~~²⁶, in which the encryption is substantially irreversible (asymmetric).

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~~15~~. A method of controlling access according to claim ~~15~~²⁸, in which the encryption algorithm will be a public key algorithm.

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~~16~~. A computer program for carrying out the method of claim ~~16~~¹⁶.

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~~17~~. A carrier comprising a computer program according to claim ~~16~~²⁹.
